Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DODE-00 NIC-01 DRC-01 /049 W ----- 092980

P 101452Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6981 INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR UR FI IN

SUBJECT: SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO FINLAND LEAVING

- 1. VIKTOR F. MALTSEV, SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO FINLAND SINCE JUNE 1971, IS LEAVING IN MID-DECEMBER FOR A NEW ASSIGNMENT. MALTSEV HAS BEEN POPULAR WITH FINNS AND MANY QUARTERS HAVE EXPRESSED REGRET ABOUT HIS DEPARTURE AFTER A RELATIVELY BRIEF TOUR.
- 2. IN FAREWELL CALL TODAY, DECEMBER 10, MALTSEV INTIMATED TO AMBASSADOR KREHBIEL THAT SPECULATION HE WOULD BE GOING TO INDIA WAS CORRECT. HE SAID HIS SUCCESSOR IN HELSINKI WOULD BE NAMED IN NEAR FUTURE AND WOULD BE BAN FAMILIAR WITH SCANDINAVIA. WE HAVE HEARD FROM USUALLY WELL-INFORMED FINNISH SOURCES THAT LIKELY CANDIDATE IS HEAD OF SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY'S SCANDINAVIAN DEPARTMENT, N.D. BELOKHVOSTIKOV.
- 3. MALTSEV WAS BORN JULY 12, 1917 IN UKRAINIAN TOWN FO DNEPROPETROVSK, EDUCATED AS AN ENGINEER, AND WORKED FROM 1941-61 IN MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION. HE HELD HIGH PARTY POSTS IN IRKUTSK AND NAMED A MEMBER OF RSFSR SUPREME SOVIET IN 1963. MALTSEV IS AN ALTERNATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER AND WAS AMBASSADOR TO STOCKHOLM FROM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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1967-71. ALTHOUGH HE UNDERSTANDS ENGLISH HE HAS

WORKED THROUGH AN INTERPRETER IN HIS CONTACTS WITH THIS EMBASSY WHICH HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN FRIENDLY. HIS TIME IN HELSINKI HAS BEEN MARKED BY SALT I NEGOTIATIONS ANDPREPARATORY AND FIRST PHASES OF CSCE. HE ACCOMPANIED GENERAL SECRETARY BREZNEV TO INDIA LAST MONTH, OSENSIBLY AS EXPERT ON CSCE. KREHBIEL

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Message Attributes

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